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### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-21 (Canceled).

22. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring default values of a network device, comprising:

determining whether default values are obtained through a memory interface[.]; and  
when it is determined that the default values are obtained through the memory interface,  
~~performing the steps of;~~

determining from a header whether any default value of the network device  
should be updated; and

~~fetching at least one configuration instruction from a memory when the  
determining step determines changing a register default value of the default values based  
on the determining from the header that the network device should be updated; and  
changing a register default value of said default values corresponding to an  
interpretation of at least one configuration instruction; and  
when it is determined that the default values are obtained through a microprocessor  
interface, changing said default values according to data received through the microprocessor  
interface.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the method  
further comprises monitoring a reset signal to determine whether the default values of the  
network device should be updated.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~said step of the~~  
determining from the header whether any default value of the network device should be updated  
comprises determining from the header a number of the default values of the network device that  
should be updated.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 43 [[24]], wherein:  
the determining from the header whether any default value of the network device should be updated comprises determining from the header a number of the default values of the network device that should be updated; and  
~~said step of~~ fetching at least one configuration instruction from the memory comprises fetching a number of configuration instructions from the memory equal to the number of the default values of the network device that should be updated.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~said step of the~~ determining from the header whether any default value of the network device should be updated comprises determining a key value from [[said]] the header and comparing [[said]] the key value with a ~~number~~ pre-defined number inside network device to determine whether any default value of the network device should be updated.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 43 [[22]], wherein [[said]] the at least one configuration instruction comprises a plurality of configuration instructions and ~~the step of~~ fetching at least one configuration instruction from the memory is repeated until all of the plurality of configuration instructions have been fetched.

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein [[said]] the memory interface comprises an EEPROM interface and the method further comprises ~~a step of~~ receiving a header from an EEPROM through the EEPROM interface.

29. (Currently Amended) A network device, having default values that are flexibly configurable, comprising:

~~a microprocessor interface;~~

a memory interface; and

a register file containing the default values for the network device;

wherein:

the memory interface is configured to receive configuration instructions, ~~wherein~~  
the network device is configured to interpret the received configuration instructions such that the corresponding values are mapped to corresponding default values of the register file, [[and]]

~~wherein the network device is configurable to set default values based on data received through either the microprocessor interface and the memory interface, and~~  
the network device is configured to determine from a header a number of the default values of the network device that should be updated.

30. (Currently Amended) The network device according to claim 29, wherein the [[said]] network device is configured to monitor a reset signal to determine if the default values should be updated.

31. (Canceled).

32. (Currently Amended) The network device according to claim 29 [[31]], wherein [[said]] the network device is configured to fetch a number of configuration instructions from the memory equal to the number of the default values of the network device that should be updated.

33. (Currently Amended) The network device according to claim 29, wherein the network device is configured to receive a header from the memory interface containing a key value [[from]] and configured to compare [[said]] the key value with a pre-defined number to determine whether any default value of [[said]] the default values should be updated.

34. (Currently Amended) The network device according to claim 45 [[29]], further comprising a controller for setting one of the microprocessor interface and the memory interface through which data is received to change the default values.

35. (Currently Amended) The network device according to claim 29, wherein the [[said]] memory interface comprises an EEPROM interface and the EEPROM interface is configured to receive configuration instructions from an EEPROM.

36. (Previously Presented) A network device, comprising:

- means for determining whether the default values are obtained through a microprocessor interface or a memory interface;
- means for determining from a header whether any default value of the network device should be updated;
- means for fetching at least one configuration instruction from the memory when the determining step determines that the network device should be updated;
- means changing a register default value of said default values corresponding to an interpretation of the at least one configuration instruction; and
- means for changing said default values according to data received through the microprocessor interface;

wherein said means for changing said default values according to data received through the microprocessor interface is configured to change the default values when the means for determining whether the default values are obtained through a microprocessor interface or a memory interface determines that the default values are to be obtained through a microprocessor interface.

37. (Previously Presented) The network device according to claim 36, further comprises means for monitoring a reset signal to determine whether the default values of the network device should be updated.

38. (Previously Presented) The network device according to claim 36, wherein said means for determining from the header whether any default value of the network device should be updated comprises means for determining from the header a number of the default values of the network device that should be updated.

39. (Previously Presented) The network device according to claim 38, wherein said means for fetching at least one configuration instruction from the memory comprises means for fetching a number of configuration instructions from the memory equal to the number of the default values of the network device that should be updated.

40. (Previously Presented) The network device according to claim 36, wherein said means for determining from the header whether any default value of the network device should be updated comprises means for determining a key value from said header and means for comparing said key value with a number pre-defined inside network device to determine whether any default value of the network device should be updated.

41. (Previously Presented) The network device according to claim 36, wherein said at least one configuration instruction comprises a plurality of configuration instructions and the means for fetching at least one configuration instruction from the memory is configured to repeatedly fetch configuration instructions until all of the plurality of configuration instructions have been fetched.

42. (Previously Presented) The network device according to claim 36, wherein said means for receiving a header from a memory through the memory interface comprises means for receiving a header from an EEPROM through an EEPROM interface.

43. (New) The method according to claim 22 further comprising:  
fetching at least one configuration instruction from a memory based on the determining from the header that the network device should be updated; and  
changing the register default value of the default values corresponding to an interpretation of the at least one configuration instruction.

44. (New) The method according to claim 22 further comprising:  
determining whether the default values are obtained through a microprocessor interface;  
and  
when it is determined that the default values are obtained through the microprocessor interface, changing the default values according to data received through the microprocessor interface.

45. (New) The network device according to claim 29, further comprising a microprocessor interface, wherein the network device is configured to set the default values based on data received either through the microprocessor interface and the memory interface.

46. (New) A network device, having default values that are flexibly configurable, comprising:

- a memory interface; and

- a register file containing the default values for the network device;

wherein:

- the memory interface is configured to receive configuration instructions,

- the network device is configured to interpret the received configuration instructions such that the corresponding values are mapped to corresponding default values of the register file,

- the network device is configurable to set default values based on data received through the memory interface, and

- the network device is configured to receive a header from the memory interface containing a key value and configured to compare the key value with a pre-defined number to determine whether any default value of the default values should be updated.

47. (New) The network device according to claim 46, further comprising a microprocessor interface, wherein the network device is configured to set the default values based on data received either through the microprocessor interface and the memory interface.